

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/715,367

Applicant(s)

KAGEHIRO ET AL.

Examiner

Andrae S. Allison

Art Unit

2624

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment filed on May 15, 2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-6, 8, 12 and 14-20 (now renumbered 1-15 for issue).
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Remarks***

1. The Office Action has been issued in response to amendment filed May 15, 2007. Claims 1-20 are pending. Claims 7 and 13 have been cancelled and claims 9-11 have been withdrawn from consideration. Applicant's arguments have been carefully and respectfully considered in light of the instant amendment, and are persuasive. Accordingly, claims 1-6, 8, 12 and 14-20 are allowed.

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: After reviewing the remarks made by Applicant in response to the non-final action the Examiner finds the remarks to be persuasive. The most pertinent prior art is Jones et al (Pub No.: 2003/0059098) and Neri et al (Pub No.: 2003/0021459). Jones discloses a document processing system comprising an automatic teller machine (ATM) electronically connected to one or more devices, the one or more devices. Jones's system also has a deposit device configured to receive an initial bank note, an image extraction device configured to extract one or more initial images from the initial bank note and from the counterfeit note, a transaction log device configured to attach a transaction log to the one or more initial images and a comparison device configured to compare the one or initial images to the one or more subsequent images in order to obtain a comparison result. However, Jones does not teach a retrieval device for tracing

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the counterfeit bank note, which is configured to retrieve the transaction log attached to the initial bank note, if the comparison device determines that the one or more initial images of the initial bank note and the one or more images of the counterfeit bank note are within the range of similarity. Neri discloses a system for controlling banknotes which is configured to retrieve the transaction log attached to the initial bank note, if the comparison device determines that the one or more initial images of the initial bank note and the one or more images of the counterfeit bank note are within the range of similarity. However, neither Jones or Neri teach where an initial bank substantially the same as the initial bank note that has been identified as a counterfeit bank note at an external station. The examiner finds no reason or motivation to combine the above references in an obvious rejection thus placing the application in condition for allowance.

3. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statements of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***

The prior art made part of the record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Rodite (US Patent No.: 6,181,812) is cited to teach a two-pass document image processing method and system.

Nagayoshi et al (US Patent No.: 6,981,637) is cited to teach an automatic teller machine.

Graves et al (US Patent No.: 5,870,487) is cited to teach a method and apparatus for discriminating and counting documents.

Herley et al (Pub No.: 2001/0040993) is cited to teach a method for detection and difference of counterfeiting of documents have a characteristic color.

### ***Inquires***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andrae S. Allison whose telephone number is (571) 270-1052. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:00 am - 5:00 +-pm, EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Samir Ahmed can be reached on (571) 272-7413. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

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published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a

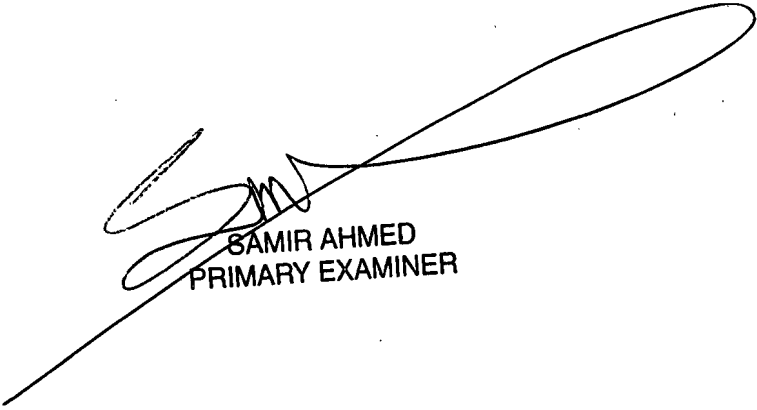
USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information

system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Andrae Allison

August 2, 2007

A.A.



SAMIR AHMED  
PRIMARY EXAMINER